

Her Smuggled Necklace.

Women who are the soul of rectitude in all other things will not hesitate to evade the law when it comes to smuggling. For some reason or other they do not consider smuggling dishonest, but rather as an exciting sort of game to play. Every woman who goes to Europe spends hours of her preparation to return in devising means of bringing things in without paying duty.

Men are much more honest about the things they bring in, and not long ago I heard of a case in which a man humored this smuggling tendency in his daughter, but took good care that she should not be discovered evading the law.

His daughter had purchased a valuable diamond necklace in London and announced her determination to bring it in without paying a penny of duty. There was no reason in the world why she should have chosen to do this, as her father was a very rich man and could have paid the duty without not-icing its absence from his bank account. But she wanted the excitement, and her father agreed to let her have her own way. She brought the necklace in in a small bag, which her father looked over to let him hold for a moment or two, and it was not for nearly a year that she found out her father had declared the ornament and paid the duty on it. At any rate, she had had her amusement.—New York Post.

Young Boecius.

One of the strangest figures of the British stage was William Henry West Boecius. He lived until Aug. 24, 1874, although he had made his last stage appearance on Aug. 9, 1824, at the age of thirty-two. Theatrical history has no parallel to his childhood. It was this little Irish boy who after seeing Mrs. Siddons had declared that he must die if he did not become an actor. He took Belfast by storm in 1803, when not quite twelve, and nearly stifled scores of Londoners on Dec. 4, 1804. Foot guards and officers were overpowered by the crowd, and gentlemen charged through the boxes and jumped by twos into the "pit" for places. Master Boecius brought \$30,000 to Drury Lane in twenty-eight nights. William Pitt adjourned the house of commons to let members see him as Hamlet, and his boom lasted until 1808. His adult return to the stage was brief and a failure.

A Royal Assembler.

One day when Francis I. was in his chapel attending mass with several of his noblemen a well-dressed pickpocket went and stole behind the cardinal of Lorraine and abstracted his purse, but unable to do this without the king perceiving it he put up his finger to intimate that the latter should keep silence. The king took it for a practical joke and said never a word. But after the service was over the cardinal asked the king to look at his purse. The pickpocket, not being able to find it, was very much annoyed and took the king to task, who greatly enjoyed the fun, and at length ordered the purse to be returned to the cardinal. The thief did not, however, come forward, and the king discovered too late that he had been tricked.

Short-Lived Bachelors.

"Do bachelors die young? Do they die earlier than married men?" asked a single man. "It would seem so. I was just reading a report which seems to argue strongly in favor of the matrimonial idea. The report shows that the mortality among bachelors from the age of thirty to forty-five years is said to be 37 per cent, while among married men of the same age it is 18 per cent. For forty-one bachelors who attain the age of forty years there are seventy-eight married men who attain the same age. The difference is still more striking in persons of advanced age. At sixty years of age there remain but twenty-two bachelors for forty-eight married men, at seventy years eleven bachelors for twenty-seven married men, and at eighty years three bachelors for nine married men. These figures seem to indicate that the best thing for a man to do is to get him a wife and shake wearing cares of bachelorhood. We all want to live as long as possible and live happily if we can. Some bachelors are reasonably happy. But all of them are not. Get married. That's the proper caper."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Michael Angelo's Work.

Michael Angelo relied almost entirely upon form—the form of the figure and of the draperies. He told Pope Julian II, when the latter requested him to paint the ceiling of the Sistine chapel at Rome, that he was not a painter, but a sculptor; yet, after he had shut himself up for four years—from 1508 to 1512—and the scaffold was removed, a result had been achieved which is without parallel in the world. The wonderful in the work which Michael Angelo spread over this vast area of 10,000 square feet. The fact that there are 248 principal figures, many of colossal size, besides a great number of others introduced for decorative effect, and that the creator of this vast scheme was only thirty-three when he began his work—all this is marvelous, prodigious, and yet not so marvelous as the variety of expression in the figures of which Jeremiah is only one figure in a small side arch.—Charles H. Caffin in St. Nicholas.

The Cruelty of Fats de Fats de Fats. To eat pate de fois gras is luxury, but to prepare the delicacy for the table is prolonged torture for the goose. The Humane League of England has issued a pamphlet on the subject. "We behold," says an eyewitness, "innumerable geese in this torture chamber, bound fast to the table. They lie on their backs as if crucified. We watched how the women pressed some new victims against the tables so that the hinder parts should hang over the edge." Two months of torture for the geese are considered necessary before their liver is sufficiently diseased to be marketable. The fowls are fed to repletion with salted maize, and by this means the liver is increased to the abnormal weight of two or even three pounds. Strasburg and Toulouse are the chief places of manufacture and the trade amounts to several hundred thousand dollars annually.

A Formula For Marriage.

The Frankfurter Zeitung has discovered a formula for marriage. Nothing

is more certain, it says, than that this formula is right. The question asked is what age should a man's bride be? The formula is: Let x be the man's age. Then $x+2=7$ —bride's age. For example, a man is 34; the half of his age is 17; then 17 plus 7 is 24. The bride's age should be 24. For a man of 34, therefore, the proper age for his wife is 24. Take the man of 60, $x=60$ $+2=30+7$. The man of 60 must marry a woman of 37. For the juvenile marriages of southern latitudes the formula is equally valid. The hot blooded Castilian, for example, of 18 years, to marry, the formula says $x=18+2=20$ $+7=27$. His wife should be 27 years old.

The Edge of a Windstorm. A curious example of how sharply the edge of a windstorm may be defined is reported by the captain of a bark. When off Valparaiso, the captain says, a whirlwind came along and passed over the stern of the vessel. A great sea accompanied the wind, and every sail and movable thing on the after part of the ship was carried away. The forward part of the vessel was untouched by the storm, which passed away in the distance, leaving a train of foam in its wake.

Eight Arrows in the Air at Once. "There is a purely Indian exploit which is recognized as a test of fast shooting," says Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton in Country Life in America. "In this the 'honor' is allowed the archer who can have six arrows in the air at once and the 'high honor' for seven. The Indian record is eight, but not many Indians have made it."

Out of Harm's Way. "What the deuce are you doing on the top of that tree, Mike? Don't you know that it's being cut down?" "Mike—Yes, your honor. The last time you had a tree cut down it fell on top of me, and, begorra, O'll be safe this time!"—London Tit-Bits.

A Genius. "Your mother-in-law never pays you a long visit," said one man to another. "How is that?"

"She did once, but I got my mother to come on a visit at the same time."

Susan's Accomplishments. Mr. Hayrake—Well, Susan must be studying! Mr. Hayrake—Land sakes! Mr. Hayrake—Yes, she says, "I am writing this letter in my drawing room."—Chicago News.

Fourth Grace. Faith, hope and charity should crowd closer and make room for gratitude.—Attchison Globe.

Sandy's Initiation. A Scottish gillie was invited by the laird to take a pull at his flask after gaffing the first fish of the day.

"I canna drink out a bottle," protested the gillie, with a frown of disapproval.

"Awa, try, Sandy," said the laird encouragingly. And Sandy tried—tried so thoroughly that the laird gazed in mingled awe and admiration at the whisky gurgled and gurgled out of the flask down the swarthy throat until, with scarce a heel tap left in it, the "pocket pistol" was handed back to the owner.

"Hoat, Sandy, maybe ye were richt; maybe ye canna drink out a bottle," gasped the laird, with a mighty sigh. "But, eh, man, ye'd soon learn!"—Bally's Magazine.

Benefits of Proper Breathing.

The habit of slow, measured, deep breathing that covers the entire lung surface is of more value and importance than you will ever believe until you have tried it, and when you have established the habit of breathing in this manner you will say some remarkable things in its favor. It will reach all points of your physical system. All the benefits that occur from a healthy condition of the blood will in a greater or less degree be yours, for the manner and completeness with which the inspired air comes in contact with the blood in the lungs are of the utmost importance to every vital process.—Christian Work and Evangelist.

Hissing in the Theater.

Formerly there was no hissing in the theater. The benevolent audience were content to yawn and fall asleep. The invention of hissing is no older than 1690 and took place at the first representation of "Amor," a tragedy of Fontenelle, so we are told by the poet Roli in his "Brevet de la Calotte." A farce was produced in Bannister's time under the title of "Fire and Water." "I predict its fate," said Bannister. "What fate?" whispered the anxious author at his side. "What fate?" said Bannister. "Why, what can fire and water produce but a hiss?"

In Light Distress. A new term was heard the other day. An old lady and her two daughters came into a millinery store. The young women were mourning hats. The old woman said to the clerk: "I want a mourning hat, for I am in mourning." "But my daughter here," indicating, "is a widow of two years' standing, and she is in light distress. Give her a hat with blue feathers on it."—Chicago News.

Schoolboy Humor.

Etc. is a sign used to make believe you know more than you do.

The equator is a menagerie lion running around the center of the earth. The zebra is like a horse, only striped and used to illustrate the letter Z.

A vacuum is nothing but a box.—Definitions by London School Children.

That Was Different.

Mrs. Tittle—What a beautiful world it must have been when there were only Adam and Eve in it. There was nobody to say nasty things about them.

Mrs. Tittle—But, then, they had nobody to talk about. Mrs. Tittle—Well, I guess, after all, the world has improved since their time.—Boston Transcript.

A Dreadful Disappointment.

"They say he was disappointed in love."

"Yes. Her father failed in business just a week before the day set for the wedding."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Bliss of Riches.

"Money," said the wise man, "does not bring happiness."

"Oh, yes, it does," said the still wiser man. "You have just enough of it."—Chicago Tribune.

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